

Bay council wants to keep closer eye on drainage project

BY MARY G. SEILEY
Staff Writer

City officials are concerned that some fairly new drainage pipe connections may be failing in the downtown Bay St. Louis area.

And while the work is still under warranty, at least one City Council member would like to see a video inspection of the underground network known as "Project C."

Ward 1 council member Doug Seal suggested Monday that the city should think about taking pictures of the drainage system, to see how extensive the problem may be.

Public Works Director Ron Vanney told council members several pipe connections may have given way already, possibly due to grouting that was used to hold the pipes together.

Vanney said officials of Colom Construction Co., contractors in the \$3.5 million drainage project, have been put on notice that road surface dips have occurred in some of the project's locations. He said Tuesday that four or five such areas have appeared, but some of the problem may be caused by natural settlement and compaction.

In other matters Monday, council members agreed to a proposal by Mayor Eddie Favre to name the Senior Citizen Center on Booker Street after two long-standing supporters of the facility, Eve McDonald and Rosine Jushaway. The mayor said a ceremony to name the building probably will be set for a date in January. In a separate matter, Assistant Police Chief Dave Stepro said Bay St. Louis stands to share in a tri-county \$16 million to \$20 million federal home-

land security effort, the Automated Information Sharing Program.

Stepro said Hancock, Harrison and Jackson counties will share in the program, which will benefit law enforcement, fire departments and emergency medical efforts.

The funding should cover such items as laptop computers for police vehicles and records management upgrades along the Coast. Stepro also said the program eventually should link area officials with agencies in Louisiana and Alabama.

Much of council's meeting was consumed with zoning matters. The meeting chamber was filled with citizens for and against a proposal to allow construction of a hair salon at 437 St. John St.,

Property owner Lajoie Butler and her son, Ben Butler Jr., said similar enterprises have blended with the neighborhood. Opponents however, argued that the business would cause traffic problems and be improper to place on property zoned for residential use only.

The same set of proponents and opponents had made their case at this month's Planning and Zoning Commission, which had voted to reject the application. City Council agreed with the commission and turned down the Butler's application.

But Ward 2 council member said the Butlers could operate the salon without the city's special approval, following the dictates of the city's "home occupation" provisions.

Among other things, such an operation would be based in the Butler residence rather than in a separate building.

Santa's Not So Little Helpers



Pam Metzler, Hancock County Circuit Clerk, and Gary Maurice, Bay St. Louis Fire Department deputy chief, accept a check for \$1,000 for the Doll and Toy Fund on Monday, Dec. 8, from the Asgard Motorcycle Club. Each year, the club makes donations to the Doll and Toy Fund, the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Salvation Army. This was the 19th year the club has donated to the Doll and Toy Fund. Club representatives said their donations would not be possible without the support of businesses from Alabama to Louisiana. The club also collects toys each year with a toy run held the Sunday after Thanksgiving. A club member said approximately 400 motorcyclist participated in the toy run this year.

Cochran, Lott announce \$1.5 M in funds for local Emergency Food and Shelter

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved \$1,588,799 for Mississippi communities for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program, Senators Thad Cochran and Trent Lott announced today. The total includes \$16,395 for

Hancock County and \$78,920 for Harrison County.

The funds will be used to help individuals and families with non-disaster, temporary financial emergency needs, such as food, shelter, rent, mortgage and utility assistance programs. Grants are awarded to local service areas that are cho-

sen by local boards in each community.

"I am pleased that FEMA has provided federal funding to supplement ongoing efforts to provide shelter, food, and other essential services for the homeless and hungry in our State," said Cochran.

The Emergency Food and Shelter Program has dis-

tributed more than \$2.4 billion in communities nationwide since its inception in 1993.

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THE SEA COAST ECHO

Hancock Medical Center hosts Red Cross Blood Drive Monday

THE SEA COAST ECHO

While most of us are out Christmas shopping, decorating our homes, visiting friends and relatives and attending holiday get-togethers, others of us are battling cancer or leukemia, requiring emergency surgery delivering premature babies or fighting for our lives after an accident. The need for blood and blood donors never takes a holiday. Hancock Medical Center will still be treating patients and depending on the American Red Cross to supply them with the blood their doctors will need to save lives... even during the holiday season.

You can join Hancock Medical Center employees by giving the best gift of all

for Christmas. You can give blood on Monday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The American Red Cross trailer will be located at the Main Entrance of the hospital at 149 Drinkwater Blvd. in Bay St. Louis.

There is an urgent need for blood donors over the next three weeks. Patient needs can only be met if people continue to donate blood throughout the holiday season. Donors will receive a holiday T-shirt as a thank you for giving blood at such a critical time of the year.

Over the holidays, patients will continue to need blood transfusions to treat their cancer, leukemia, and anemia or for their surgeries or emergency needs.

Accidents will continue to happen, and may even increase at this time of year. Fires will occur causing victims to rely on blood donors and children will need their chemotherapy treatments and blood transfusions. You can help make sure our community has the blood it needs to help those people who must spend their holidays in the hospital. All blood types are needed. Currently, supplies of most blood types are below levels. There is a critical need for O positive and O negative types. O negative blood is the universal blood type and is used frequently for trauma victims and for babies and young children. It can be transfused to any patient no matter what their blood

type. However, a patient with O negative blood can only receive O negative type blood. O positive blood is the most common blood type. It is also the type that hospitals require the most often for their patients since about 38 percent of the population is type O positive.

For more information on giving blood, sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive or volunteer opportunities with the Red Cross, please call the American Red Cross at 896-2217.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2003 • 3A

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NEW LOCATION (Next to McDonalds)

The City of Waveland invites everyone to join us on Coleman Ave., at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 13, 2003 for the Festival of Lights.

The evening begins with the Christmas Parade and the arrival of Santa Clause at City Hall.

Trolleys will give tours of Christmas Card Lane (Mollere Dr.) and Christmas Door Lane (Lafitte Dr.). (Free of charge.)

St. Clare, Waveland, and Hancock Elementary Schools, will delight the crowds from City Hall steps with Christmas Carols beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The residents and businesses along Coleman Ave. will each be offering their own Holiday treats to everyone strolling along the lane.

The evening will culminate with a fireworks display at the Beach and Coleman Ave.

Come one and all and join us for an evening of song, fun and Holiday cheer.

'Corruption' hits Dec. 13

Local supergroup reunites

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Local 1970's band Corruption will hold a benefit concert this Saturday, Dec. 13 from 8-12 p.m. at the Hancock County Civic Center. All proceeds will be donated to "Christmas for Kids" which helps children who may not otherwise receive Christmas gifts with donations of toys and gifts.

The band, who will present the concert with all the original members, played their first concert in 1970. They were well known around the area for their concerts at youth centers, weddings, and Mardi Gras and St. Patrick's Day concerts held on Coleman Avenue in Waveland.

The group also traveled extensively throughout the Gulf Coast and East Coast for about three years. Some of the members of the band went on to play with other bands.

The original band held its first reunion in more than 20 years in 1999,

when they played another Christmas benefit concert for the Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse.

"The turnout was so good that we decided to do it again," said drummer Mike Horne. "This is only the third time we have played together since the 70's."

The band got together while many of the group were in high school. "We had a party every Friday night and jammed, and the group came out of that," said Horne.

"We used to play every weekend and drive all night Sunday to get back in time to go to work on Monday," said Horne of the band's younger days.

"I have no regrets. You meet a lot of people, and music is a natural high."

The band will be playing some of its old standards such as Carly Simon, the Eagles, Charly Daniels and others. They are also learning some new songs, Horne said. Tickets for the benefit are \$30 per couple which includes set-ups and door prizes. If you are interested, call Horne at 466-6458 evenings or 209-0227 days.

Pearlington parade, Kiln tree lighting get season started

Waveland keeps ball rolling Sat. with 'Festival'

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Twas two weeks before Christmas and all through the county the choirs were singing and Santa was jolly. Hancock County really knows how to put the festive touch to the season with parades and celebrations that will continue through the weekend before Christmas.

On Saturday, Pearlington led the way with a parade, complete with Santa Claus and a gathering of the com-

munity at the West Hancock Volunteer Fire Department Fire House. The frigid temperatures (for south Mississippi anyway) didn't seem to deter anyone from turning out to enjoy the festivities and the cold lent a Christmas feel to the day.

On Tuesday evening the traditional Tree Lighting celebration was held at the Kiln Public Library. Hundreds of people attended the event. Santa arrived escorted by the Kiln Volunteer Fire Department and was greeted by a swarm of children.

Music was provided by the Hancock High School Choir directed by Rita Wilson; and Hancock North Central Elementary Choir directed by Jackie Necaise.

Hancock county School ROTC performed the flag raising followed by the singing of the National Anthem by Donna Torres. The official lighting of the tree was performed by District 5 Supervisor Jay Cuevas and family.

After the ceremony children waiting in line to visit with Santa were entertained with stories by Cub Scout Pack 20 Diamondhead/Kiln at story stations inside the library.

This Saturday, Dec. 13, the Waveland Festival of Lights will continue the spirit with its Annual Festival of Lights beginning at 5 p.m.

On Sunday, Dec. 21, the Kiln VFW will hold its annual parade at Noon.

Pass Christian Public School Choirs to perform joint Christmas concert today

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Pass Christian Public School District's choirs will present an evening of seasonal music on Thursday, December 11, 2003. The concert will be held at Trinity Episcopal

Church of Pass Christian. Trinity is located at the corner of St. Louis and Church Streets. The concert will include student performers from Pass Christian Middle School and Pass Christian High School at 452-2008.

Bay High Band Concert Dec. 16

The Bay High Band Christmas Concert will be Dec. 16, 2003, 6:30 p.m. at the Robert V. Magee Auditorium. Admission: (2) Non perishable food items for the Bay St. Louis Food Pantry.



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Opinion

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2003

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Tour of Homes, Festival of Lights set this weekend

Civic Christmas parade rolls through Waveland on Saturday

An extra special fundraising event will be held on Saturday, Dec. 13, 5 p.m. sponsored by the Friends of the Animal Shelter in Hancock County.

There will be a tour of seven homes, six in the third block and one at the beginning of the fourth block of Main Street.

The homes will be decorated for the season and a trolley will transport tour guests up and down Main Street.

There will be a \$5 minimum donation for the tour and can be purchased in advance from the Bookends, The Purple Snapper, Pet Haven Veterinary Hospital, or the Animal Hospital at Diamondhead.

Tickets can also be purchased at the homes on the evening of the tour.

The Animal Shelter is very important to our county.

Additionally, on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., there will be Pet Pictures With Santa at the offsite adoptions at the Waveland Kmart.

For a minimum donation of \$2 you can bring

your pets down to have a keepsake picture made with Santa.

Some of you may be wanting a pet dog or cat for your youngsters and this would be a good time to check out to see what is up for adoption.

Saturday is also the big *Festival of Lights* in Waveland in addition to the annual Waveland Civic Association's Christmas parade.

The parade begins to form 4 p.m. on Central Avenue next to the ballfield.

Parade time is 5 p.m. and it will travel on Central from Coleman Avenue to Lafite Drive, Lafite to Beach Boulevard, Beach to Coleman, Coleman to Central to disband.

Coleman Avenue will be the scene of many events at the Library, City Hall and merchants will be offering refreshments and snacks.

Santa will be there too for the youngsters to give them their "Christmas Wish List" and have photos taken, etc., and don't forget the Christmas Caroling too.

Big times will be on Coleman Avenue Saturday.

Tax hike may emerge in state's future

The incoming Barrbour Administration of course doesn't want to talk about raising taxes, having repeatedly disavowed such a notion in the recent campaign.

Significantly, however, it has brought on board the guy who was chief legislative engineer of the last big state tax hike 11 years ago.

And therein may lie a well-kept secret that some tax hike may emerge in the state's near future.

In any case, when Gov-elect Haley Barbour picked former State Rep. Charlie Williams to be his top administrative assistant, unquestionably he got the

right guy to do battle with the perennially hard-to-move Mississippi Legislature.

Williams spent 24 years in the Mississippi House as a Democrat before converting to the GOP in 1999 as an unsuccessful candidate for governor. As a lawmaker, the onetime Ole Miss

baseball star, noted on the ball diamond for his hustle, showed that same bulldog tenacity in the halls of the Legislature.

His most notable performance--perhaps ironic

in light of the anti-tax campaign rhetoric of his new boss--came in 1992 when Williams rammed through a 1-cent increase in the state sales tax for public education.

He then led the charge to nullify a veto of the bill by the state's last Republican governor.

There's already been just a slight hint in remarks Barbour has made recently after getting caught up on the state's dismal budgetary picture that "new revenue" may be

needed to save vital programs from crippling hits.

That could presage Barbour's coming to grips with what budgetary realists have been saying for three years of quick-fix financing by the Legislature: that some upward adjustments must be made in the state tax structure to yield more revenue.

At least Barbour comes into office without having made a Bush I "read my lips...no new taxes" pledge. And in bringing Charlie Williams on board, he's at least put a key player on his team who rose to the

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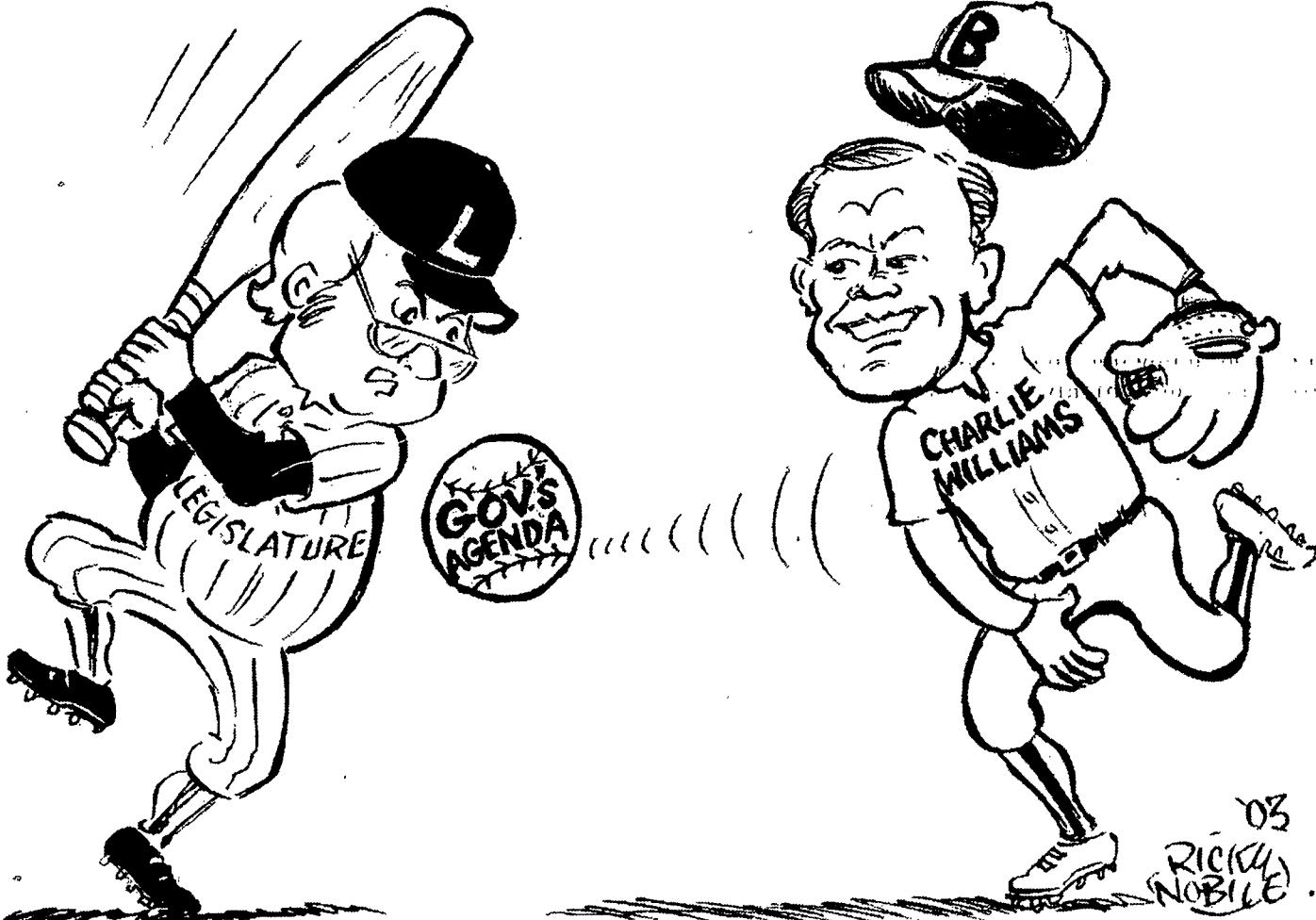


Eyes on Mississippi

By Bill Minor

Illustration by Ricky Nobile

MAKING HIS PITCH



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National commander asks for \$8 million for Agent Orange study

The following is a letter sent recently by National Commander Brieden to the House and Senate Appropriations Committee regarding funding for a study on the effects of Agent Orange and other herbicides used in Vietnam veterans.

The Honorable C.W. Young, Chairman Committee on Appropriations United States House of Representatives H-218, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The American Legion, the largest veterans' service organization, urges you and your fellow conferees to provide \$8 mil-

lion to complete the work tasked to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in 1979 for a large scale study regarding the effects of exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides used in Vietnam.

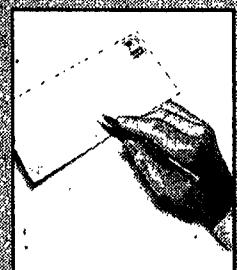
Public Law 96-151, Section 307 directed the VA to conduct epidemiological research to determine whether persons exposed to dioxin during the Vietnam War were suffering long-term adverse health effects.

Although the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) were originally asked to conduct this study and provided approximately \$40 million in funding, CDC canceled the project claiming that military

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten, and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer will be published. The editor reserves the right to edit or select letters. Letters from organizations or groups are inappropriate.



records were inadequate to estimate dioxin exposure for individual Vietnam veterans.

Three separate panels of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine have confirmed The American Legion's long time assertion that epidemiological studies, based on the Department of Defense (DoD) records, are indeed possible.

The American Legion urges you and your fellow

conferees to provide the \$8 million, in addition to those funds already provided for Medical and Prosthetics Research, for this study so that VA can execute its mission ... "to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and his widow and his orphan ..."

Sincerely,
John A. Brieden III
National Commander

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Hope Haven receives \$10,000 donation

SEA COAST ECHO

Hope Haven Children's Shelter received a \$10,000 capacity building grant from the Department of Health and Human Services on Dec. 9.

The Volunteers of America Southeast, an intermediary for the Department of Health and Human Services Compassion Capital Fund, presented the check as part of sub-awards totaling \$150,000. These awards are given to faith-based and community service organizations.

Hope Haven was among the 16 organizations in Mississippi and Alabama to receive the award.

The Compassion Capital Fund was designed to provide organizations with financial resources to aid in replicating or expanding promising programs in community priority areas such as homelessness, hunger, at-risk children or youth, welfare to work, drug and alcohol rehabilitation and rehabilitation of prisoners.

"Hope Haven is delighted to receive this grant," said Terry Latham, Hope Haven director. "We will use



Hope Haven director Terry Latham (second from left) accepts a check for \$10,000 from Volunteers of America Southeast representatives George Myers, director of constituent development; Paul McLendon, director of Faith-Based and Community Resource Center; and Hill Rowan, director of fundraising.

these funds to develop programs to increase our support from the community and ensure that when an abused or neglected child needs a safe place to go, Hope Haven will be there."

Faith-based organizations and community service organizations who are interested in this program or desire to learn more about the Volunteers of America may call 251-666-4431 or visit the offices at 600 Azalea Road, Mobile, Ala.

"Hope Haven is delighted to receive this grant. We will use these funds to develop programs to increase our support from the community and ensure that when an abused or neglected child needs a safe place to go, Hope Haven will be there."

Terry Latham,
Hope Haven director.

Minor

occasion back in 1992 to shore up crumbling financial support for public schools.

Back then, Williams, as chairman of House Ways and Means, teamed up with Prentiss County's Rep. Billy McCoy, newly-named chairman of the House Education Committee following the retirement of highly-respected Jim Simpson as the House's longtime education spokesman.

The McCoy-Williams team not only saved public education from an immediate crisis of having to go to four-day school weeks or parking school buses, they succeeded for the first time ever to dedicate a tax specifically for education purposes, even giving higher-ed a share.

Of course, there are valid arguments against lawmakers raising Mississippi's general sales tax to 7 cents on the dollar, with no exception for grocery purchases.

It's a sad commentary that lawmakers had to reach once again for the most regressive tax source--the one that hits lower income families hardest--while avoiding other tax sources that have strong lobbies. But faced with a Hobbism dilemma facing them, they opted for the quickest revenue-producer.

In any case it took courage for legislators to raise any tax while knowing they would have to face voters later that year in court-ordered new elections.

Lets fast forward to where the state currently finds itself budget-wise, with a new administration headed by a governmental untested chief executive.

From the looks of the \$3.6 billion state general fund budget proposed last week by the budget-writing Joint Legislative Budget Committee (LBO), Barbour and lawmakers could very well be facing in 2004 a reprise of the ox-in-the-ditch situation public education faced in 1992.

Though budgeters expressed satisfaction with their handiwork, especially that they fully funded the 4th year of the 5-year teacher pay plan, as the expression goes, the devil is in the details of the proposed state budget.

And the devil apparent-

Continued from Page 4A

ly has done a heap of damage to the overall funding of public education, the area most agree is the heartbeat of the state's hopes for a better tomorrow.

Worried State Department of Education leaders say that if the 2005 LBO recommended budget allocations for all public school programs is not infused with additional funds by the Legislature, education would suffer a \$200 million cut.

The

prized Mississippi Adequate Education Program, which when enacted in 1998 kept the state out of the courts where many other states have found themselves for failing to subsidize poorer tax-base districts, would be hardest hit.

Alone, with last year's one-time special fund money not available, MAEP would get \$161.1 million less under the proposed 2005 budget than it got in 2004.

"At a time when education was making significant forward strides, we cannot afford to go backward," declared veteran Deputy Superintendent of Education Judy Rhodes who is director of educational accountability.

"The investments in kindergarten and reform programs we began making under the 1982 Education Reform Act are just now really paying off," Rhodes added.

Of course, education in the new general fund budget is not the only highly sensitive Mississippi program that faces crippling cuts. Medicaid, the state's basic health care for 720,000 disabled and elderly poor citizens, again is in danger of having thousands being cut off unless there's a \$90 million infusion for the state's share of the program's cost.

Noticeably, LBO, chaired by Lt. Gov. Amy Tuck, this time used a more conservative estimate of 2.5 per cent revenue growth for 2005, unlike the pie-in-the-sky estimates of 3 and 3.5 percent they threw at Gov. Ronnie Musgrove the past two years, leaving him the unpleasant job of making mid-year cuts in agency appropriations.

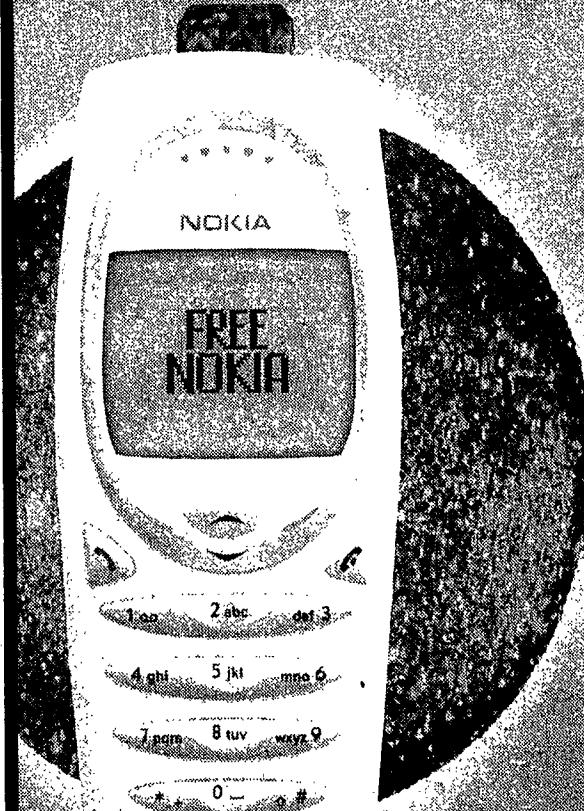
And the budget-writers saved until the fine print

making it more costly than health or social services.

Interestingly, Charlie Williams in his Ways and Means days was one of the strongest advocates of issuing bonds.

Lets hope Haley Barbour doesn't take a cue from his old boss in the White House, Ronald Reagan, who tripled the national debt in three years time.

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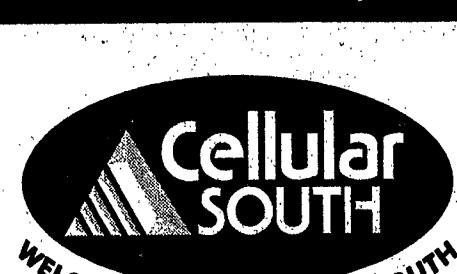
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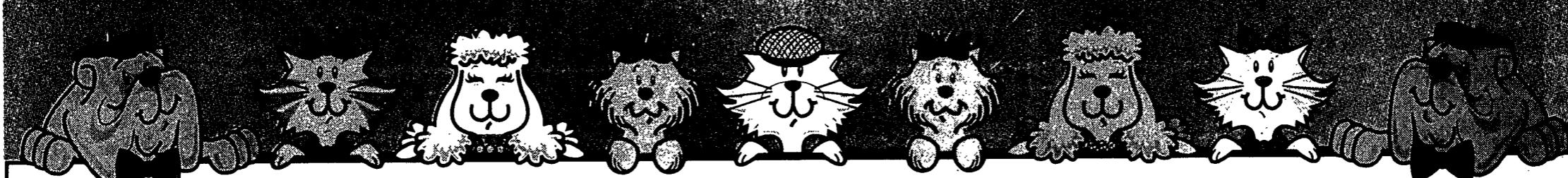
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This event is sponsored by the following establishments. Come and get a pet today. These pets are available at the Animal Shelter, 322 Hwy 90, Waveland.



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	Lil Man is a 3 year old Jack Russell Terrier		JESSIE is a beautiful young spayed female chocolate lab mix		THE SEA COAST ECHO
	Female lab/shepherd/chow mix pups, about 6 weeks old.		Jessie is a beautiful young spayed female chocolate lab mix		124 COURT ST. BAY ST. LOUIS 467-5473
	Chow Mix Pup		Midnight is a young adult female lab/rot mix, spayed and shots up to date.		PEST CONTROL SPECIALIST, INC.
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	PET HAVEN		Beautiful Black Kitten about 7 weeks old		2016 Beningo Lane Bay St. Louis 228-467-3910
	STATEWIDE INSURANCE SERVICES		208 Hwy. 90 Waveland 228-467-1718		2016 Beningo Lane Bay St. Louis 228-467-3910

Animal Shelter Photographs provided by Nancy Miner

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Sealy Posturepedic Firm, Plush, or Pillowtop	\$599	Sealy Posturepedic Firm, Plush, or Pillowtop	\$799
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Obituaries

BETTY DIBOLL
ESMOND KEATING
WILLIAM KING SR.
GEORGE ROTH SR.
CARMEN RUIZ
WILLIAM STAEBLE



BETTY DIBOLL

Betty Turner Diboll, 72, a resident of Bay St. Louis, died quietly at home on Monday, December 8, 2003, following a long illness.

She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Donald Wright Diboll; her son Donald Collins Diboll of Clovis, California, who is Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Physical Education & Kinesiology at California State University, Bakersfield; his wife, Deena; and two grandsons, Nathan and Mitchell Diboll.

Mrs. Diboll, who lived in New Orleans for 11 years following her marriage, moved to the Gulf Coast with her family in 1972 and has lived in Waveland and Bay St. Louis. She is originally from Bessemer, AL and was a graduate of the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa with a bachelor's degree in Physical Education. She was a Counselor in the Dean of Women's office at the University of Alabama and then was appointed Assistant Dean of Women at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. She remained in this position until her marriage. Mrs. Diboll was owner of Betty Diboll's Gifts in Waveland. She was a member of the Bay Waveland School Board for 10 years and was President of the School Board for 5 years. She was instrumental in obtaining funding for Tetah Hall of the Bay Waveland School District and was an active supporter of public and private schools in Hancock County. Mrs. Diboll was a maid in the Krewe of Nereids and she and her husband were King and Queen of the Bay Catholic Elementary School's Mardi Gras Parade in 1999.

She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Bay St. Louis where the

funeral service will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2003. Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the Service time at 11 a.m. Interment will follow at the Gulf Coast Memorial Cemetery & Mausoleum in Bay St. Louis, MS. Family and friends are invited for a reception after the cemetery services at Christ Episcopal Church in Virginia Hall. In Lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the charity of your choice. Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of the arrangements.

ESMOND KEATING
Edmond John "Cuz" Keating, 87, died Tuesday, December 9, 2003 in Bay St. Louis, MS.

He was born May 3, 1916 in New Orleans, LA. He graduated in the 1930's from Warren Eastern High School in New Orleans where he played lineman for the Championship football team. He graduated in 1942 from the Tulane University College of Engineering. Mr. Keating retired in 1984 after 42 years as a Chemical Engineer with Southern Regional Research Lab of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in New Orleans, LA. He was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in New Orleans. He was a member of Model Railroad Club in New Orleans, American Textile Chemist and Colorist Society and a number of various other professional organizations. He was an author of various patents for textile machinery and processes for the U.S. Government. Mr. Keating was an avid fisherman.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Jeanne Felicie White Keating; grandson, Christopher Grant Scott; two brothers, Michael duTreil Keating, and Earl Keating.

Survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Jeanne and Carl Szczecchowski, Bay St. Louis, MS; two grandchildren, Krystyna Szczecchowski and Alec Szczecchowski, both of Bay St. Louis, MS.

Visitation will be held on Friday, Dec. 12, 2003, 12:00-1:30pm, at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Pascagoula, MS. Funeral Mass will follow at 2pm, at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church in Pascagoula with Father Gerard Cleary officiating. Interment will be in Krebs Cemetery, Pascagoula, MS.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to American Heart Association.

Arrangements made by

O'Bryant-O'Keefe, Funeral Home, Pascagoula, MS.

WILLIAM KING SR.
William Keating King Sr., age 87, of Diamondhead, MS, died Sunday, December 7, 2003, in Diamondhead.

Mr. King is survived by his wife of 55 years, Patricia (nee Wolz). Also surviving is one son William Jr. and his wife, Katy, of Hudson, Illinois; a grandson, William III, of Bloomington, Illinois; a granddaughter, Samantha Berry; and a great-grandson, Ryan Berry, of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Mr. King was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Elizabeth (Keating) King; four sisters, Vesper Foster, Katxleen Keigher, Alice Kollman, and Eleanor Asbury, all of Joliet, Illinois.

GEORGE ROTH SR.

George W. Roth, Sr. 75, of Waveland, MS. died Friday, December 5, 2003 in Bay St. Louis, MS.

He was a Retired Supervisor, U. S. Postal Service. A native and a life long resident of New Orleans and a part time resident of Waveland. He was a Protestant.

He was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Dale Mittelstadt.

Survivors include his wife, Barnie Virginia M. Roth of New Orleans and Waveland; son and daughter-in-law George W. Jr. and Pamela of Kenner, LA; daughter, Monya Mittelstadt of St. Mary, GA; brother, M. A. Roth, Jr. of Metairie, LA; 2 sisters, Edith M. Roth and Doris R. Herbert, both of New Orleans; 10 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at Riemann Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was in Gulf Coast Memorial Cemetery.

CARMEN RUIZ

Carmen Ayala-Rosado Ruiz, 87, of Pass Christian, MS, died Dec. 8, 2003, in Gulfport. Services: 9 AM, Wed., Dec. 10, 2003, Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, DeLisle. Burial: Biloxi National Cemetery.

WILLIAM STAEBLE

William Adam Staehle, Jr., 77, beloved husband, father, grandfather and uncle to many passed away on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at his home in Bay St. Louis, MS.

Mr. Staehle was born in New Orleans, LA and grew up in Bay St. Louis, MS. He then returned to New Orleans to marry and raise his family. He was owner and operator of Royal Broom



STAEBLE

and Mop Factory, Inc. for many years.

He was a former member of Optimist Club, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, and past king of Hermes Carnival Club. He was a member Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church. Mr. Staehle was a Veteran serving in the United States Navy during World War II.

He is preceded in death by his parents, William Adam Staehle, Sr., and Rosalia Ethel Sporl, and his first wife, Joyce Rabe Staehle; one sister, Billie Tudury, and a brother; Louis Staehle.

He is survived by his wife, Bobbye Boyd Staehle of Bay St. Louis, MS; his children, William A. Staehle, III, and his wife Mary of Marrero, LA; Janice Staehle Casey and her husband Wendell of Metairie, LA; Patricia Staehle Striegel and her husband William of Ocean Springs, MS and Donald Rabe Staehle and his wife Corey of Metairie, LA., and step children, LaNell B. Waller and her husband Bobby of Warner Robins, GA; Robby Boyd and his wife Lisa of Henderson, NV and Barbara Miramon and her husband Mike of Slidell, LA; brothers and sisters, Marie Autenreith of Bay St. Louis, MS; Georgia Williams of Waveland, MS and Charles Staehle of Bay St. Louis, MS. He is also survived by 15 grandchildren, Adam, Ryan and Katie Staehle; Anna and Kevin Casey; Timothy and Allison Striegel, and Alice Staehle, also Sarah, Lauren, and Luke Waller; Stephen and Michael Boyd, and Lindsey and Rylie Miramon.

There will be a visitation for family and friends at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home on Thursday, December 11, 2003 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. with Recitation of the Rosary at 8:00 p.m.

On Friday, December 12, 2003 there will be a visitation from 10 a.m. until 11

a.m. at Lake Lawn Metairie Funeral Home in New Orleans, LA with a Mass of Christian Burial to follow at 11.

Interment will be in Lake Lawn Metairie Cemetery, New Orleans.

The family prefers donations to Hospice at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport, P.O. Box 1810, Gulfport, MS 39502-1810.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home, Bay St. Louis, MS is in charge of the arrangements.

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Registration deadline for ACT test is Jan. 2

Test date scheduled for Feb. 7

The next national test date for the ACT Assessment is Feb. 7, 2004.

Collegebound students should register by the Jan. 2 postmark deadline. Late registration postmark deadline is Jan. 16 (an additional fee is required for late registration).

Students can register online at www.act.org or they can get a registration packet from their high school guidance counselor and register by mail.

The website also has sample test questions and a link to a free financial aid calculator.

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges and universities in the nation.

The test fee is \$26 (\$29 in Florida). Colleges use ACT scores, along

with a student's high school GPA and other information to help determine admissions and the appropriate course placement for new students.

The ACT Assessment is curriculum-based, designed to measure a student's academic achievement. There are four sections to the exam: English, reading, math and science.

Students who have already taken the ACT can retest and try for a higher score.

Juniors often use their scores to examine academic weaknesses, take courses or tutoring to correct those weaknesses and retest as seniors.

Students who test more than once can choose which scores to report to prospective colleges.

For more information and to register, call the NAMI MS office at 1-800-357-0388.

NAMI offers free help for mentally ill

SEA COAST ECHO

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) of Mississippi will be offering free education and support classes beginning in January in the Gulfport/Biloxi area.

"Peer to Peer Education" is a course on the topic of recovery for any person with a serious mental illness such as major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, or others.

Teams of individuals who are themselves experienced at living with mental illness teach the course.

For more information and to register, call the NAMI MS office at 1-800-357-0388.

In Loving Memory
Bryson Bradley
Jan 18, 1982 - Dec. 11, 1999
If I should die and leave you here awhile,
For my sake, turn again to life and smile,
Be not like others who stay lonely and weep,
Long vigils by the silent dust they keep.
Try something to comfort other hearts than thine,
Or complete the dear unfinished tasks of mine,
And for my sake, turn again to life and smile.
Terribly missed by,
Dede, Nat, Rodney,
Aunts, Uncles,
Cousins, &
Grandparents

BUSINESS NEWS

NASA selects small business research proposals

NASA has selected 310 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and 45 Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) research proposals for Phase 1 contract negotiations, including 12 SBIR and two STTR proposals from NASA's Technology Development and Transfer Office at Stennis Space Center (SSC).

The SBIR contracts will be awarded to 246 small high-technology firms in 38 states. The STTR contracts will be awarded to 40 small high-technology firms in 20 states. Funding for the selected projects may total approximately \$26 million.

The goals of the NASA SBIR program are to stimulate technological innovation; increase the use of small businesses, including women-owned and disadvantaged firms, to meet federal research and development needs; and increase private sector commercialization of innovations derived from federally funded research.

The firms awarded SBIR contracts through SSC and their projects are:

- * Charles River Analytics Inc., Cambridge, Mass., for visualizing meta-information in remotely sensed Earth science data;

- * General Kinetics LLC,

Lake Forest, Calif., high-test peroxide high-sealing conical seal;

- * Geospatial Insights Inc., SSC, ocean surface current vectors from MODIS Terra/Aqua sea surface temperature image pairs;

- * Geospatial Research Innovation Design, Corpus Christi, Texas, Mobile Online Intelligent Decision Support System;

- * Materials Modification Inc., Fairfax, Va., nanostructured material for accurate and fast-tracking of cryogenic temperatures;

- * Mobitrum Corp., Rockville, Md., wireless sensor portal technology;

- * Optimal Solutions Software LLC, Idaho Falls, Idaho, automated computational fluid dynamics design with shape optimization;

- * Orbital Technologies Corp., Madison, Wis., multi-use non-intrusive flow characterization system;

- * PERL Research LLC, Huntsville, Ala., data reduction and rapid analysis of hyperspectral data sets;

- * Plumetech, Huntsville, Ala., engine test stand design constraints expert system;

- * Positive Systems Inc., Whitefish, Mont., precise automated image coregistration tools to enable pixel-level change detection; and

- * Utopia compression Corp., Los Angeles, Calif., intelligent multi-resolution 3-D modeling, compression, registration, fusion and recognition.

The goals of the NASA STTR program are similar to the SBIR program with the distinction that the STTR program requires a collaborative research effort between a small business and a research institution.

STTR companies with SSC, their research institutions and projects are:

- * Luna Innovations Inc. of Blacksburg, Va., University of Alabama, Huntsville, for high-frequency flush mounted miniature liquid oxygen fiber-optic pressure sensor and

- * Mississippi Ethanol LLC of Winona, Miss., Mississippi State University, for real time, non-intrusive detection of liquid nitrogen in liquid oxygen at high pressure and high flow.

- * U.S.-owned small business concerns submitted 2,696 SBIR and 179 STTR proposals.

Selected proposals may receive up to \$70,000 for an SBIR and up to \$100,000 for an STTR contract.

Upon successful completion of Phase 1, the small

business may submit a Phase 2 proposal. Phase 2 continues development of the most promising Phase 1 projects. Selection criteria include: technical merit and innovation, Phase 1 results, value to NASA, commercial potential, and company capabilities. Phase 2 contracts are funded up to \$600,000 for a performance period of up to two years.

The NASA SBIR/STTR Program Management

Office, located at the Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md., manages the program for NASA's Office of Aerospace Technology, Washington. Individual SBIR and STTR projects are managed by NASA's 10 centers, including SSC.

A list of the selected companies is available on the Internet at <http://sbir.nasa.gov>.

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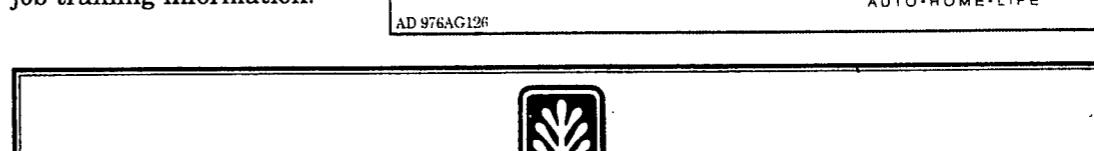
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Drugs -- roundup

assault rifle, with a 100 role drum, and a 30 round magazine; a 9-mm Pistol with two 13 round clips.

Precursors for use in making methamphetamine; over a pound of marijuana; crack cocaine, and at least two small scale used to weigh drugs for sale purposes.

McNeil-Varnell's report the following arrested and their respective charges:

- Nathaniel Bragley, 18, 648 Union St., Bay, strong armed robbery, \$10,000 bond;

- Charles Celestine, 47, 420 Washington St., Bay, sale of a controlled substance, no bond;

- Dana Ehrlich, 22, 6451 Lower Bay Road, Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- George Keown, 46, 1003 Hwy. 90, Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Brysson Laneaux, 21, 645 Union Street, Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Jason Vincent, 21, 612 Bookter St., Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond, and sale of a counterfeit substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Dwayne Welch, 28, 417 Ulman Ave., Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

two counts, \$40,000 bond;

- Rick Lewis, 26, 610 Herlihy St., Waveland, sale of a controlled substance, three counts, no bond;

- Randall Rutherford, 26, 220 Gulfside St., Waveland, sale of a controlled substance, two counts, \$40,000 bond;

- Phillip Summers, 27, 1705 Waveland Ave., Waveland, sale of a controlled substance, two counts, \$40,000 bond;

- Oscar Thomas, age unavailable, 425 Herlihy St., Waveland, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Julius Thompson, 47, 715 Shieldsborough Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Jason Vincent, 21, 612 Bookter St., Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond, and sale of a counterfeit substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Rickey Whavers, 32, 119 Edna St., Waveland, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Tyrone Whavers, 41, 645 Union St., Bay, sale of a controlled substance, four counts, bond \$80,000;

- Simeon Wilkerson, 18, 538 Washington St., Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

\$20,000 bond;

- J.T. Tillman, 26, Washington St., Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Connie Joiner, 31, 1003 Highway 90, Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

Jeff Colson, age unavailable, 224 Waveland, Ave., Waveland, sale of a controlled substance, two count, \$40,000 bond;

- Timothy Haney, 22, 5133 E. Miami St., Pearlington, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Byron Saucier, 18, 590 Easterbrook St., Bay, sale of a controlled substance, no bond;

- Rickey Whavers, 32, 119 Edna St., Waveland, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Will Davis, 23, no known address, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Robert Lee Harvey, 35, 140 Cathy Drive, Bay, sale of a controlled substance, three counts, no bond;

- Craig Labat, 23, no known address, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond;

- Frank May, 40, 1569 Blue Meadow Road, Bay, sale of a controlled substance, three counts, \$60,000; and

- Martin Pickering, age unavailable, 10082 Road 556, Bay, sale of a controlled substance, \$20,000.

Continued from Page 1A

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2003 • 11A

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Club

Continued from Page 1A

to noon.

A mandatory parent orientation will follow at 1 p.m. in the school cafeteria on Ulman Ave. Only a parent or legal guardian with appropriate ID may register a child.

The club will be open to all students in public and private schools in Hancock County, also will have a summer program when schools close.

Required documents include the child's birth certificate, social security cards for both parent and child, child's immunization record and parent's employment verification. The cost is a \$5 annual membership fee. For more information, call 374-2330.

The mission of the national organization, which is over 140 years old, is to help youngsters realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

Participants in the

Hancock County program will be chosen by random drawing. Youngsters who are not chosen on this time, may be put on a waiting list for future opportunities.

Staffing for the club will include a paid full-time unit director, a part-time membership services aide, a part-time program director and five program instructors. All staff members will undergo complete FBI background checks, a check of the child abuse registry and drug tests.

Organizers are optimistic that the Second Street program is the beginning of something much bigger. They hope that the program will expand to other schools in Bay St. Louis, Waveland and Hancock County.

"We know there will be a lot of people interested," said Sue Reed, executive director of the Gulf Coast organization. "It's going to be great."

First Baptist offers choir, live nativity

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The First Baptist Church of Bay St. Louis located at 141 Main St. would like to invite everyone to our Christmas Cantata Choir presentation at 6:00 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13th & Sunday, Dec. 14th which will be followed by our

Bethlehem Marketplace and Nativity Drama. The Marketplace and Nativity will have activities and costumes representing the Biblical time surrounding the Birth of Jesus along with live animals. There is no charge, please come join us.

Christmas Open House Friday at I-10 Welcome Ctr.

Hancock County Welcome Center, I-10 and Hwy 607, will celebrate a Christmas Open House Friday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. - 2p.m. Area school children, D'head Line Dancers to perform.

CAUTION: High Pressure Gas, Water and Sewer Lines DAMAGE PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS: In the interest of public safety and to prevent damage to public utilities, you MUST notify the Bay St. Louis Public Works Department (467-2724) seventy-two (72) hours PRIOR to construction, repair, or installation of ANY underground facility on property owned or occupied by the City of Bay St. Louis. When work is completed, you are required to contact the city and shall allow a city inspector to inspect any city utility lines to insure that the piping has not been dented or the wrapping damaged. Reference: City Ordinance No. 303, Section 17-20 and Mississippi Code: Section 77-13-1 through 77-13-15.

Ronald J. Vanney
Director of Public Works
City of Bay St. Louis, MS

The Last Noel is topic at Second Friday Book Club

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Last Noel by Michael Malone is the book to be discussed at the Second Friday Book Club, on Friday, December 12, at 10 a.m. at the Kiln Public Library. The book club cosponsored by the Kiln Public Library and Gloria Burette.

The group was formed over a year ago and originally began meeting on the first Friday of every month. They moved to the second Friday to accommodate

members. Each month the group discusses a different book.

The library system can be accessed through the World Wide Web at www.hancock.lib.ms.us. DialPac, the library system's automated catalog, can be accessed via home, business or school modem by dialing 463-0024.

More information on the group is available by calling Gloria Burette at 255-9097, or Sandra Ladner at 255-1724.

Coast Chorale offers Christmas Concert at Bay High Friday

The Coast Chorale, under the direction of Joy P. Mehrrens, will perform three Christmas Concerts this holiday season. The next performance will be Friday, December 12, 2003, 7:00 P.M. at the Bay High School Auditorium in Bay St. Louis, MS. The final concert for the 2003 season will be Sunday, December 14, 2003, 7:00 P.M. at Trinity Episcopal Church in Pass Christian, MS. All concerts are free of charge and open to all.

Persons interested in singing with The Coast Chorale for the spring 2004 concert season should contact Eric Meindel (228) 466-9529 or Joy Mehrrens (228) 463-9215 for information and to set up an audition. All voices welcome.

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Last Artwalk of 2003 set Saturday

From 5 to 8 p.m. there will be live music, artists' receptions at the galleries, refreshments and late evening shopping during Second Saturday Artwalk on Dec. 13.

For the finale of the year, there are several extra events scheduled. Hancock Bank has sponsored a trolley to run on Beach Boulevard and Main Street between 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. The First Baptist Church at 141 Main Street will have a contata starting at 6 p.m. and live nativity scene beginning at 7 p.m. on Dec. 13.

There will also be three bands playing from 5 to 8 p.m. Bo and Dee will be in the 100 block of Beach Boulevard, Driscoll Mountain will be in the 100 block of Main Street and Silver City will be in the 200 block of Main Street.

Peoples Bank will sponsor the music of Bo and Dee, Driscoll Mountain and Silver City.

HOT SPOTS BAY TOWN INN, 208 N. BEACH BLVD.

Bay Town Inn was built in 1899, and was home of the de Montluzin family for sixty years. From 5 to 6:30 p.m., Charles Gray, executive director of the Hancock County Historical Society, will tell stories about the site of this home covering the past 300 years. Gray will be

followed from 6:30 to 8 p.m. by Mrs. Emily de Montluzin, widow of Rene de Montluzin whose grandfather built this beautiful home. Mrs. de Montluzin will speak about the family that has meant so much to this community.

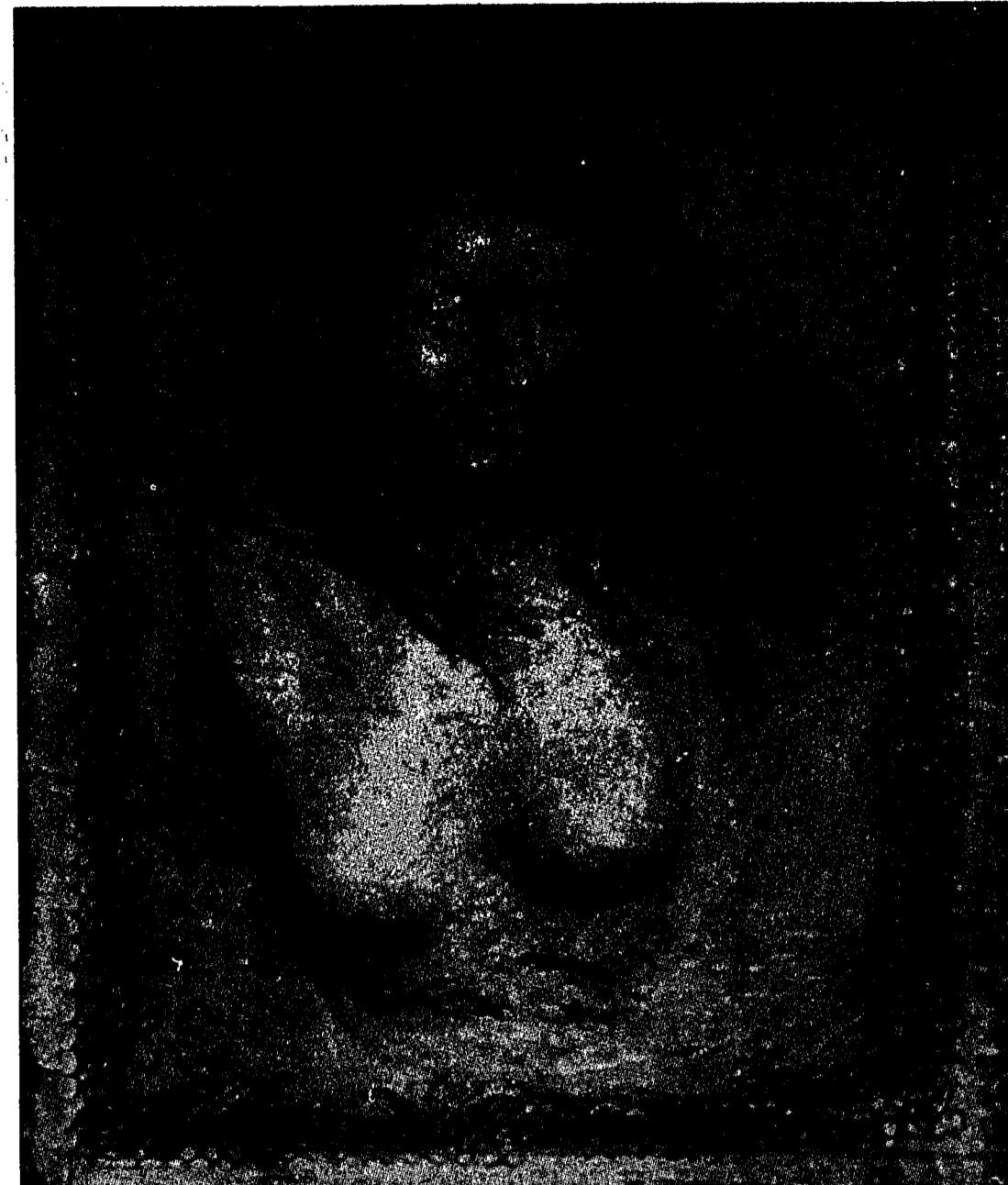
SERENITY GALLERY, 126 MAIN STREET

Lori Gordon is the featured artist at Serenity Gallery. "Nudes: Interpretations of the Human Form" will run through the holidays and opens with an artist's reception at the gallery from 5 to 8 p.m. on Dec. 13.

Gordon's most recent work explores the human form, both female and male. She has chosen to portray the beauty of the body in two very distinct fashions.

Gordon's ability to portray the human form with this most basic of techniques has been described by professor of art and critic Richard DuBois as "poetic and fluid... Gordon has a natural feel for this medium, and produces solid, excellent work." The series consists of twenty two pieces that capture the beauty and dignity of the human body.

Her work may also be found at Morgan West gallery in New Orleans, Antiques and Interiors in Pass Christian, Smatterings Gallery in Rapid City, S.D., and in museums and public and private collections around the country.



Artist Lori K. Gordon will present "Nudes: Interpretations of the Human Form" on Dec. 13 at Serenity Gallery for Second Saturday. Her work will be on display through the holidays.

Potters at Quarter Moon

Quarter Moon Gallery will hold a reception for featured artists Mark Buszkiewicz and Regan G. Carney on Dec. 13.

These two "potters" will have whole new groups of work that shows their continuing enthusiasm for their art and craft.

Buszkiewicz has spent several years developing a technique to invert and then stretch and modify thrown vessels. The results are highly organic forms with much apparent movement.

Carney's "new" work is actually a technique that she has been working with for many years, along with

her other well known thrown and hand built forms. Nerigae is the process of putting two different colored clays together, usually black and white, without mixing them. The result is an unusually bold and lively pattern. There can never be two the same. She has used simple hand built forms to show off the extraordinary quality of this clay.

The Quarter Moon Gallery is located in downtown Bay St. Louis at 146 Main Street next to the courthouse. The artists' reception will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Call 228-467-7279 for more information.

Happy art at The Loft



Sherry Dole will be the featured artist at Loft Studios on Second Saturday, Dec. 13, from 5-9 p.m. Her whimsical, detailed and humorous works conjure a fantastic story-book realm peopled by anthropomorphic animals.

Dole said "My whole point is to make people happy. I want to make them laugh."

She will be exhibiting original works as well as newly-produced giclee prints of her festive menagerie of characters. This is the first time Dole

has offered her work in the less costly print medium.

Collectors from galleries as far away as California and New York City ardently collect Dole's work.

Also on hand Saturday will be local bread artisan Al Jensen, with samples of his "work of health."

Several artists will be on hand for the reception as well, Saturday, showcasing new works, including local painters, photographers, sculptors and multi-media artists.

Purple Snapper to feature ceramacist

The Purple Snapper will feature ceramacist Pat Hudson during the Second Saturday Art Walk in a showing of her work titled "Reflections".

Hudson is a native of Long Beach and is a self taught potter. Her interest in community and environmental issues and love of nature is evident in her

work of using found objects such as sea glass and driftwood and combining the objects with clay. She also has used the slumping technique in the kiln with glass wine and soft drink bottles creating cheese boards and spoon rests therefore recycling these into functional pieces.

Hudson is one of the new

emerging artists on the coast and is always looking for new ways to express herself.

Each of her pieces are unique and have a personality of their own. Her work can also be found at the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum in Biloxi.

She will be present at the gallery from 5 to 8 p.m.

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The Sea Coast Echo

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2003

pg 1B

COMMUNITY

Christmas, by the books

Scenes from the Hancock Library's Holiday Tree Gala & Patron's Party



Echo staff photos by
Ellis C. Cuevas
and Geoff Belcher



Nearly 1,000 people show for library system's holiday event

THE SEA COAST ECHO
More than 900 people attended the Hancock County Library's 2003 Holiday Tree Gala, held Sunday at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library.

Trees decorated by more than 72 businesses, organizations and schools were on

display for the public, and will remain in the library until Monday, January 5.

The Best in Show ribbon went to Bay Catholic Elementary, with ornaments made by the students around the theme, Name Above All Names. The tree was also the winner of the People's Choice award, which is presented to the tree who receives the most

votes from those attending the event and casting their ballots for the tree they like the most.

The Most Creative Tree went to Point Island Garden Club, Angels from the Gulf, with angel ornaments made from crab shells.

The Designer Award was captured by Ya Ya Grannies,

GALA--PAGE 4B

The Sea Coast Echo

Sports

More than a trophy



Eli Manning, the record-setting senior quarterback from The University of Mississippi, claimed the Conner Trophy on Thursday, December 4, at the Bayview Hotel in Biloxi. He's shown here after the ceremony with one of his biggest fans, Manning Gex.

Pearl River splits with Southwest

SUMMIT-Pearl River Community College split with Southwest Mississippi here Monday in MACJC South Division women's and men's basketball action.

The Lady Wildcats fell 63-55 to the Lady Bears to even its overall and division records at 5-5 and 1-1, respectively; while the Wildcats remain unbeaten league play with a 63-49 victory to improve to 7-3 and 2-0.

In women's action, Southwest, which is now undefeated in the division at 2-0; led 30-21 at the intermission, but the Wildcats grabbed a 34-33 edge in the second half only to come up 9 points shy of victory.

Sophomore forward Monique Dale of South Jones paced the Lady Wildcats with a career-high 19 points, while Carmen Labat of Bay High added 12. Kim Winfrey of Oak Grove scored 11, Cicely Tatum of Poplarville High 9, and Kira Tillman of Poplarville High 4.

From the foul line, PRCC was 10 of 16, while SMCC was 9 of 14.

In the men's game, sophomores Larry Brackins of Dothan, Ala., and Ray Selvage of Baton Rouge



Pearl River freshman point guard Gabe Willis (12) from St. Stanislaus sets up a play in the Wildcats' 82-68 victory over East Central recently in both team's MACJC South Division openers. PRCC is the defending MACJC state champ. — PRCC Sports Information Photo By Mitch Deaver

combined for 31 points to lead the Wildcats to victory.

Brackins scored 16 points and grabbed 5 boards, while Selvage, who earned All-Region XXIII and All-MACJC honors last season as a freshman; scored 15 and also hauled in 5 rebounds. Kitt Jones and Alvin Smith, both of Forrest County AHS, added 9 and 7 points, respectively; while Carlos Cole of Hattiesburg High scored 6, Jonathan Williams of Stone County 5, and Jeremy Goff of Picayune High 2.

PRCC is taking a much-needed Christmas holiday break, but will return to the hard court Saturday, Jan. 10, against Delgado in New Orleans (2 p.m. women, 4 p.m. men). Division rival Mississippi Gulf Coast visits Monday, Jan. 12 (6 p.m. women, 8 p.m. men).



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The Sea Coast Echo

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GAME 2: _____

GAME 3: _____

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GAME 8: _____

GAME 9: _____

GAME 10: _____

TIE BREAKER: EXACT SCORE

ARIZONA AT SEATTLE

DECEMBER 21TH

2. Kansas City at Minnesota - Dec. 20

3. New England at NY Jets - Dec. 20

4. San Francisco at Philadelphia - Dec. 21

5. Atlanta at Indianapolis - Dec. 20

6. San Francisco at San Diego - Dec. 21

7. Dallas at Denver - Dec. 21

8. San Francisco at St. Louis - Dec. 21

9. Atlanta at New England - Dec. 21

10. Green Bay at Oakland - Dec. 22

11. Detroit at New York Jets - Dec. 21

12. Tampa Bay at Carolina - Dec. 21

13. New England at Tennessee - Dec. 21

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Sports

SSC holds on for 61-55 win over Bay in division opener

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The Wilmer Seymour Gymnasium was the site of battle on Tuesday when the St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws and the Bay High Tigers locked horns in the Division 8 Class 4A opener. The Rocks held off an outstanding Tiger squad for a 61-55 win to improve to 8-2 and 1-0 while Bay High fell to 7-3 and 0-1.

SSC head coach Jay Ladner stated, "Bay High has an outstanding team. For us to come here in our physical condition and win is very meaningful to us. This was a strong defensive effort by both teams."

The Tigers took a 14-11 advantage at the end of the first period behind Marquez Singleton's three-pointer with :33 left. In the second period, Singleton broke a 16-16 tie with another three-pointer with 5:36 left in the half. The Tigers pushed their lead to 23-18 before SSC ripped off a 14-0 run that was started by Jay Spell's threys with 3:10 left to play. Rob Murray scored nine straight points and Mario Faranda closed out the scoring with a bucket as SSC took a 32-25 lead at intermission.

The third period was about as even it could get with Bay High nudging SSC in scoring 13-10. The Tigers tied the score at 42-42 less than a minute into the final period on Lorenzo Lewis' basket in traffic.

Murray's old-fashioned three-point play gave the advantage back to SSC 45-42 with just under six min-

utes to play. The Tigers would cut the difference to a point three times with the last time coming with 4:03 to play. Lewis hit a shot in the paint to make the score 49-48 in favor of SSC.

Darius Acker put the Rocks in control for good with a trey at the 2:27 mark of the final period.

SSC was led by Murray with 22 points followed by Acker with 15 and Faranda with 12. Singleton led Bay High with 24 points followed by Lewis with 15 and Javon Williams with 10 points.

Bay High head coach Alan Lumpkin commented, "Our players fought very hard tonight. They have been ready to play each night this season. It is disappointing to lose at home; however, I do not think anyone won or lost the district tonight."

"This game was a good defensive effort by both teams. We have to play Vandalee on Friday night. So, we will work hard to shake off this loss and get ready for Vandalee."

In the girls game, the Lady Tigers of Bay High (7-3) defeated Moss Point 55-56. Bay High held a 30-18 advantage at halftime but Moss Point fought back in the second half to make a game of it. The Lady Tigers committed 19 turnovers in the contest which is not what Debbie Triplett wanted to see as they prepare for the start of their district schedule.

Bay High head coach Debbie Triplett commented, "We got sloppy and commit-

ted some key turnovers in the second half that allowed Moss Point to get going. Also, we did not do a good job of blocking out for rebounds. A positive aspect for us, though, was our poise in getting control of the momentum and securing the win late in the fourth quarter."

The Lady Tigers were carried by Kendra Reed's 32 points and five steals. Destiny Porter scored 18 points and 6 rebounds in the win. Crystal Sketching added 9 points for Bay High.

In other basketball action, the Pass Christian Pirates split a pair of games with the Biloxi Indians on December 5. The Lady Pirates slipped past the Lady Indians 53-52 on Teena Martin's putback with :01 left on the clock. Martin finished with 15 points and 8 rebounds. Tori Terrell added 14 points while Tomeaka Fields added 8 points, 6 assists, and 5 steals.

In the girls game, the Pirates were dropped by the Indians 75-48. John Childs scored 19 points to lead Pass Christian.

In the Hancock County Tournament at Kiln this past weekend, the Bay High Tigers and the Hancock Hawks locked horns in the finale on December 6. Bay High defeated Hancock 69-62 behind Marquez Singleton's 19 points. Hancock (4-3) was led by Braxton Rockwell with 29 points and Josh Ladner with 17 points.

In previous action over

the weekend, the Hancock Hawks defeated Pearl River Central 61-52. Rockwell led the way with 25 points and Ladner added 12 points.

In high school soccer action on December 2, the St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws blanked the Mercy Cross Crusaders 7-0. Sean Olsen recorded the shutout in goal for SSC. Patrick Donohoe scored the hat trick for SSC with Michael Kivlan, Beau Brodtmann, Kody Cannon, and Jake Johnson all scoring one goal each.

On December 3, the OLA Crescents ran their record to 8-0 with a 3-2 victory over St. Scholastica of Covington. Meghan Flynt, Jane Covington and Laura Ellis all scored for OLA. Rachel Cranford had two assists and Flynt had one for OLA.

OLA had to score two goals in the game's closing minutes to defeat the Louisiana state runner-up from a year ago.

On December 4, the OLA junior high soccer team scored an 8-1 victory over Ocean Springs to run their record to 2-0.

Bri Johnson scored twice for the Crescents and Madeline Michelli, Shelby Wild, Jaime Reisch, Rebekah Kennedy, Lizzy Milner, and Ashley Fournier all scored once.

Reisch, Wild, Milner, and Olivia Hoff all had an assist in the game.

On December 6, St. Martin defeated the Hancock Lady Hawks in soccer 3-1. Matina Rorhus scored the lone goal for Hancock.

Lady Hawks split in soccer

The Hancock Lady Hawks beat Poplarville 1-0 Friday, December 5 in high school soccer. Martine Rorhus scored the winning goal on an assist from Torey Hornberger with 14 minutes remaining in the game. Last Saturday, the Lady Hawks fell to St. Martin 3-1. Hancock's goal was scored by Martine Rorhus, eight minutes into the second half.

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Weems family to host holiday baseball camp

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

There will be a holiday baseball camp directed by the Weems Family of Bay St. Louis held at the Bay Youth Athletic Fields behind Tiger Stadium on Athletic Drive on Saturday, December 20 from 9am until 2pm. Lunch will be provided to the campers.

The camp will be open to boys and girls in grades 1-8. The cost of the camp is \$50.

The guest speakers for the camp include Matt Karl, Director of Narcotics for the Hancock County Sheriff's Department and Dr. Jim Thrifley of Bay Orthopedic Surgery. Karl will speak on goals, dreams and the dangers associated with drugs. Thrifley will talk about the prevention and treatment of sports related injuries.

The camp instructors will Mike Weems, current head baseball coach at Bay High

School, who played at the University of North Alabama. His father, Dr. Fred Weems, who played at William Carey College and has over 41 years of coaching experience. Currently, Dr. Weems is assisting with the Lady Tiger softball team. David Weems, a graduate of Bay High School, and the current head baseball coach at McGill-Toolen Catholic High School in Mobile.

David starred at Springhill College before embarking on a short professional career. Luke Weems, current assistant baseball coach at St. John High School in Gulfport, starred at Bay High School and later Springhill College. Casey Weems, who prepped at Bay High School and later Pearl River Community College, rounds out the Weems' family of instructors.

OLA bombs Green County 11-1 in high school soccer

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Laura Ellis scored a hat trick as Our Lady Academy blasted Green County 11-1 in soccer action Tuesday night. The team got back on the winning track after consecutive losses to Tupelo and Oak Grove. Megan Flynt had two goals and Rachel Cranford, Kira Reaver, Margaret Hadden, Lakasia Ducksworth, Cassie Schaffer and Kay Pourirat all scored in the Crescent's point parade.

The team is 9-2 overall and 1-0 in district. OLA will travel to Lumberton Friday for a 7 p.m. contest.

The OLA Junior High team won two games this week, beating St. Scholastica 8-1 and Green County 7-0. Shelby Wild scored three goals in the St. Scholastica contest. Jennifer Loiacano had two goals and Olivia Hoff, Rebekah Kennedy and Ashley Fournier had one each.

In the Green County game, Bri Johnson, Jaimie Reisch, Rebekah Kennedy, Olivia Hoff, Lizzy Milner, Lauren Seal and Kalli Renz each scored one goal in a balanced offensive showing.

The team is 4-0 on the season and will host St. Scholastica on January 7, 2004.



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Bay-Waveland Flower show 'leaves' the crowds breathless

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Bay Waveland Garden Club held its annual Christmas flower show, Dec. 6 and 7, at the Hancock County Library during the opening of the Holiday Tree Gala. The theme was "It's for the Birds" and the classes depicted various means of caring for our native birds during the winter season. The centerpiece of the show was a large simulated Christmas tree made of drift wood decorated with food for the birds by the members of the Bay Waveland Junior Garden Club. Two Educational exhibits explained how to identify common feeder birds and what to feed them during the winter.

Lynette Nybo, of Bay St. Louis, won the blue ribbon in the design class named "Feed the Birds" with her design using a bird feeder. Dianne Miller, of Waveland, won the blue ribbon in the class "Home again" with her design containing a bird house. Shirley Colomb's wreath won the blue ribbon in the class labeled "Berries and Cones and Seeds, Oh My".

Lynette Nybo's design received the Designer's



Alice Holmes at the Bay-Waveland Garden Club's annual Christmas Flower Show Sunday.

Choice Award for being the best of these designs.

Lynette Nybo won a blue

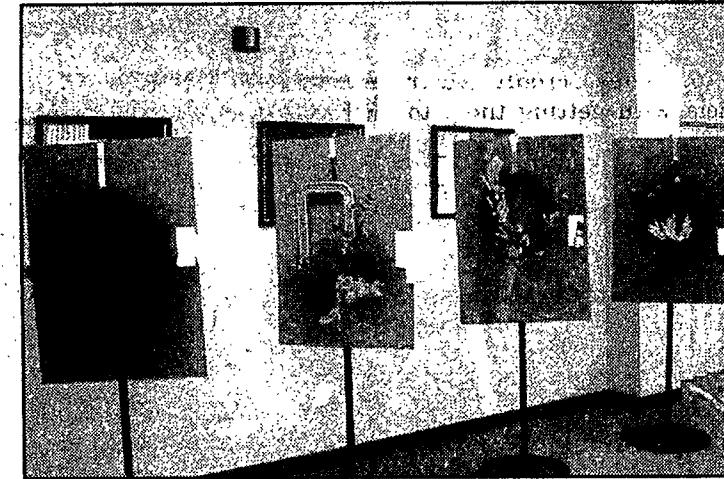
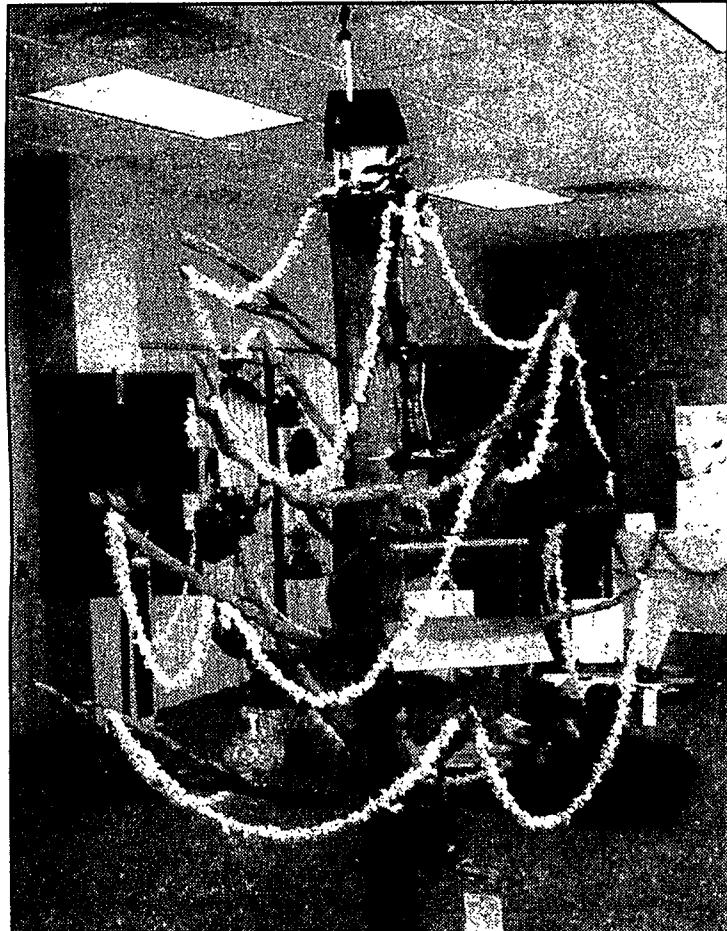
ribbon for her design in a punch cup "Here We Go A-wassailing". Kathleen Kemp, of Bay St. Louis, won a blue for a miniature design titled "Forget-me-not" and Alice Holmes, of Bay St. Louis, a blue for her tree ornament.

Alice Holmes won the local club's special Serendipity Award for the best in these three classes.

Many horticultural entries were exhibited. Alice Holmes won the Arboreal Award for best tree or shrub branch, a Pittosporum tobira 'variegata'.

Dianne Miller won an Award of Merit for her Philodendron panduriforme leaf and Virginia Worrel, of Bay St. Louis, won an Award of Merit for her Beaucamea recurvata, a ponytail palm. Alice Holmes won a Serendipity Award for her terrarium. The Award of Horticultural Excellence went to Dianne Miller.

Lynette Nybo won the Sweepstakes Awards for the most blue ribbons in the design and Alice Holmes for the most blue ribbons in the horticulture division.



Gala -- Hancock Library

the Grannyl.com entry. The flat wall tree depicted a woman, complete with hat arms and shoes.

The Best New Entrant ribbon was awarded to Diamondette Primadonna's Red Hat Society, while the Patriotic Award went to the Boy Scout Troop 77 tree, sponsored by the American Legion Post #77.

Absolutely Blinds and Shutters was named the winner in the Best Use of Logo category for its ornaments made with miniature blinds.

The tree placed by St. Clare School was named the first place winner in the Outstanding Youth Tree category. Second place went to Little Saints Academy.

The Adams Loraine Flower Shop tree was the first place winner in the outstanding six foot (traditional) category, with Aspen A/C & Heating placing second.

In the outstanding six foot (non-traditional) category, Southern Exposure

was named first with its black and white tree, with Prudential Gardner placing second.

In the outstanding three foot (traditional) category, Hope Haven of Hancock County was the first place winner, with The Kid Company placing second.

Ornaments with a fishing theme and a miniature model of the Garfield Ladner Memorial Pier highlighted the tree entered by the City of Waveland, who were awarded the Outstanding Government Tree.

Stained Glass by Judith Mang was named the first winner in the outstanding three foot (non-traditional) category, and Full Moon Clockworks placed second.

The City of Bay St. Louis received the award for the Best Holiday Display, with its depiction of books by local authors, a rocking chair, the Stephen Ambrose diorama. The theme for the display was: Bay St. Louis - The Literary Heartbeat of

the Gulf Coast. The Best Community Organization tree was clinched by the Krewe of Real People, with coconut ornaments.

In the Outstanding Prekindergarten/Kindergarten category, Coast Episcopal Preschool won first place, and the Hancock Library's Story Hour tree captured the second place ribbon.

Coast Episcopal's tree won the top honors in the

Outstanding Elementary/Middle School category, and the Hancock Homeschool Association received the second place ribbon.

The Bay High School Student Council was named the Outstanding Jr. High/High School tree, featuring starfish as ornaments. The Best Tree Topper award went to Bookends Bookstore, with a paper mache head of the bookstore's cat, Oprah.

20 - 6:30 p.m. Bayous of the Isles.

Judged by Point Island Garden Club. To enter, call Bill Mahony at 452-7176 (leave message) or Robert Sudduth at 452-5111

Lighted Boat Parade is Dec. 20

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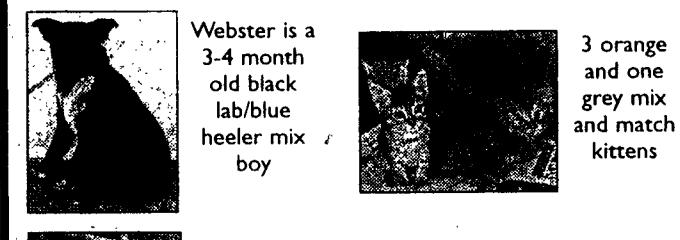
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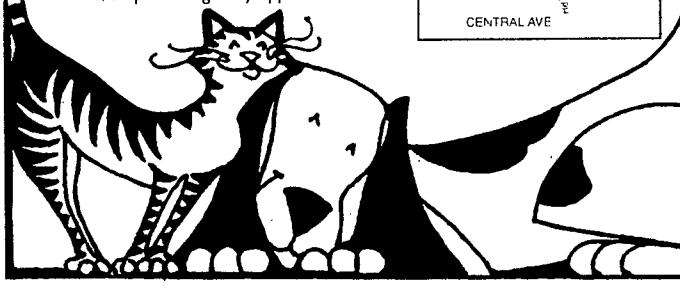
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The Neville Brothers

Nevilles coming to Magic

The Neville Brothers will bring their unique style of music to the stage at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Friday and Saturday December 26 & 27 at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$19.95, \$24.95 & \$29.95 and are available at the Casino Magic Box Office, by calling 1-800-5-MAGIC-5 or at any Ticketmaster location.

With four powerfully unique personalities, the Neville Brothers thrive on an explosive fusion of diversity and unity. The collective of talented brothers is world-famous for its embodiment of the New Orleans sound. Aaron, Art, Charles and Cyril Neville have expanded the horizons of New Orleans R&B while honoring the music's roots and tradition. Drawing on the vast resources and multiple styles of African-American music, The Neville Brothers have combined R&B, jazz, reggae, and elements of rock and Zydeco with a harmony-

based funk groove all their own.

The careers of Art and Aaron Neville began in the early 50's around the street corners, on the porches and at-house parties in the notorious Calliope Projects. Energetic, but with little else to do, it was only natural for them to pick up the rhythms and moods of the city they were so much a part of. Aaron is perhaps the best known of the brothers. His hits include "Tell It Like it Is" in 1966 and his duets in the 80's with Linda Ronstadt on "All My Life" and "Don't Know Much." Art first came to note well before Elvis, having recorded "Mardi Gras Mambo" with the Hawklettes in 1954. "Mardi Gras Mambo" continues to get heavy airplay and respectable sales during the local Mardi Gras festivities.

After the four put together careers separately and not having played together

for eight years, the brothers united to help record the universally acclaimed "The Wild Tchoupitoulas" a year after their mother's death in 1975. They credit their uncle with getting them to join forces. "He told us that our mother and father had always wanted to see us work together as a band," Charles recalls. "He knew that if we got together as a family, it would happen." The brothers became a best-loved local attraction and in 1988, they won a Grammy with "Yellow Moon." Then in the 1990's, "Brother's Keeper" cemented their star status.

They have sold millions of record worldwide and have gold and platinum records in six different countries. They have been the featured television performers on "Good Morning America," "Today," "Oprah," "Saturday Night Live," "Letterman" and "The Tonight Show."

Charo offers a 'Cuchi, Cuchi' Christmas at Casino Magic

The original "Cuchi-Cuchi" girl, Charo brings her "Cuchi Cuchi Christmas" variety show to Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Friday and Saturday December 12 and 13 at 9 p.m. and Sunday December 14 at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$14.95, \$19.95 and \$24.95 and are available at the Casino Magic Box Office, by calling 1-800-5-MAGIC-5 or at any Ticketmaster location.

Only a few multi-talented people are recognized with just one name and bring a smile to your face when that name is mentioned.

Charo is one of those few. Charo is a singer, dancer, comedian and also a classically trained guitarist who has been playing since the age of nine.

Her most recent albums include, "Guitar Passion,"

showing off her guitar skills and "Gusto," her first dance album since the disco era.

She is best known for her appearances on the television shows "Chico and the Man," "The Love Boat," "Laugh In," "The Carol Burnett Show," "The Late

Show" and "The Tonight Show." Lately she has been headlining in Vegas and touring the world with her variety shows. Don't miss Charo's Cuchi Cuchi Christmas Show at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Dec. 12, 13 and 14. Must be 21.



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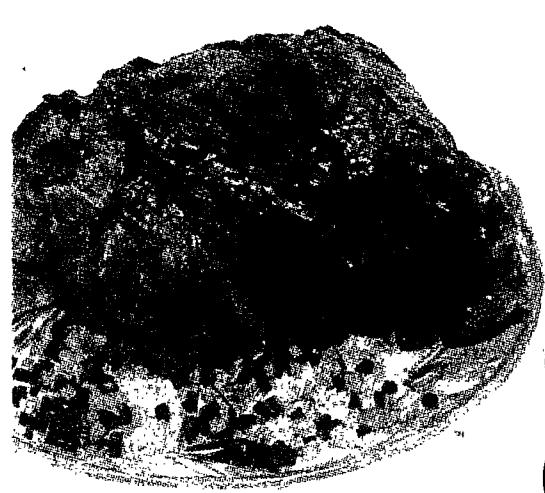
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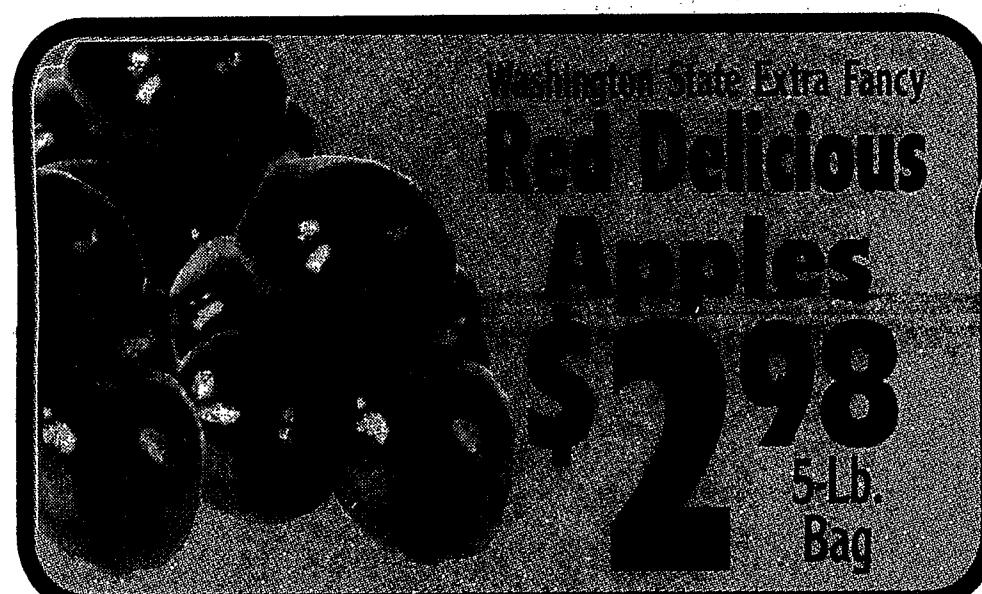
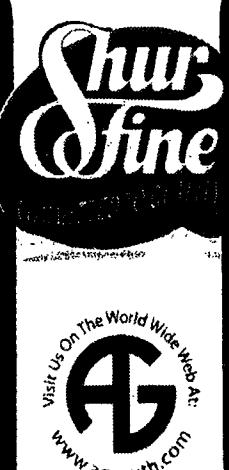
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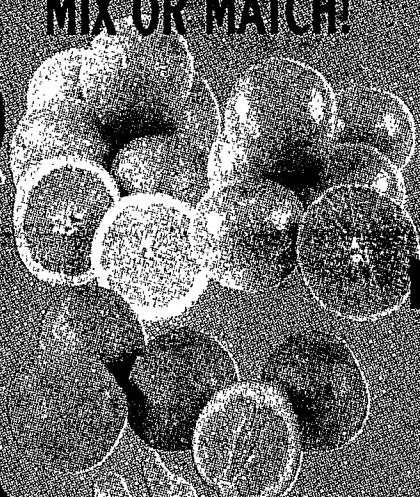
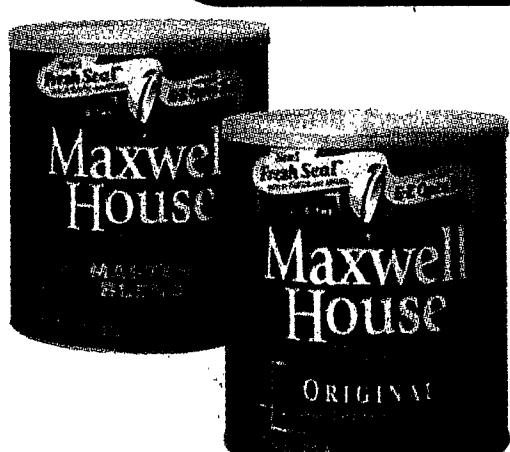
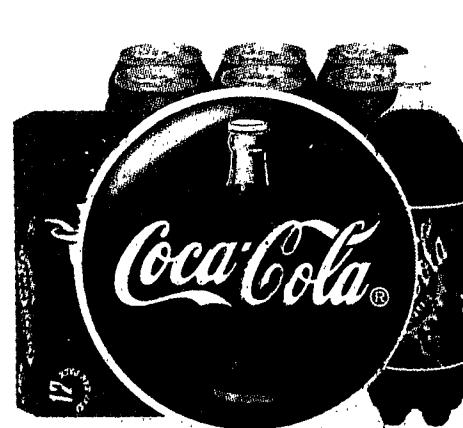
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